

1.0	Table of Contents	
2.0	Sand Finish	2
2.1	Description	
2.2	Materials Summary	
2.3	Properties	
2.4	Resources	
2.5	Area Suitability	
2.6	Application Guide Disclaimer	
3.0	Preparation	3
3.1	Gather Tools	
3.2	Sample Making	
3.3	Review Video Tutorial	
3.4	Review Safety Precautions	
3.5	Substrate Preparation	
4.0	Sand Finish Application Guide	4
4.1	Tips & Considerations	
4.2	Mixing Sand Plaster	
4.3	Base coat Application	
4.4	Finish Coat Application	
5.0	Completion	5
5.1	Storage	
5.2	Clean Up & Disposal	
6.0	Project Consultation	5

2.0 Sand Plaster Finish

2.1 Finish: Description

Earthaus Sand Finish is an interior lime plaster finish named after its coarse matte granular texture. Matte and unsealed, Sand Finish is not suitable for shower use.

2.2 Materials Summary: total thickness: 1/16"

1. Substrate preparation: Prime with Earthaus Primer Grit additive over level-4 finished drywall or painted wall
2. Sand Plaster: Two 1/32" coats* totaling 1/16"
3. Mineral Pigment: One Pigment Pack per bag of Sand

*** 1/32" is the thickness of a credit card*

2.3 Properties

- Earthaus Sand is made with high quality US-quarried lime (refined limestone), pumice (volcanic rock), mineral pigments, and a plant-based binder.
- 100% natural materials
- Excellent adherence and workability
- Zero VOCs or chemical additives
- Earthaus Sand will absorb CO₂ and will transform back into limestone as it cures
- Mold and mildew resistant
- Durable and breathable

2.4 Resources

See: [Earthaus Sand Finish Application Information](#) to view:

- *Sand Finish | Overview*
- *Sand Sample Kit | Application Guide*
- *Sand Finish Care & Maintenance Guide*
- *Sand Finish | Video Tutorial*

2.6 Application Guide Disclaimer

The information provided in the Earthaus Sand Finish Application Guide is given in good faith, based on current knowledge and Earthaus' experience with the plaster products when they are properly stored, handled and applied in normal situations. The Earthaus Sand Finish Application Guide is useful for information but is not legally binding. In particular, it does not exempt the user from testing and verifying the suitability of the product for the desired application and purpose. Any modification to the instructions and recommendations by the user, they will assume all the corresponding risk and responsibility. Earthaus Plaster reserves the right to modifications that improve the product or its application.

3.0 Preparation

3.1 Gather Tools

The recommended tools for a Sand Finish are organized and listed on our website. Each tool is linked to an online purchase option.

[Recommended Tools](#)

Substrate Preparation: Priming

- Drill
- Small Mixing Paddle
- Roller or Brush

Plaster Mixing:

- 1200 RPM variable speed drill
- Egg Beater style mixing paddle
- 5 gallon buckets
- 5 Gallon Mesh Paint Strainer

Plaster Application:

- Hawk
- Trowel
- Scraping Knife

3.2 Sample Making: Substrate Options

A 2 ft by 2 ft sample is recommended to view the finish, color, and texture of a Sand Finish.

A. Sample Boards

Sand Finish samples can be made on sheetrock, Medium Density Fiberboard (MDF), tile backer board, or ceramic bisque tiles. For health, take note that standard MDF board is made with formaldehyde, a known carcinogen. Plywood and particleboard are not recommended because tannins can leach and discolor the plaster. The substrate needs to be dry and free from impurities that could hinder the bonding of primer and Primer Grit.

B. Sample Wall

Sand Plaster can be applied to level-4 finished drywall or previously painted walls. The substrate needs to be dry and free from impurities that could hinder the bonding of primer with added Primer Grit.

3.3 Review Video Tutorial

The Sand Finish Video Tutorial will demonstrate the standard application recommendations for the Earthus Sand Finish System.

[Earthus Sand Finish Video Tutorial](#)

3.4 Review Safety Precautions

As lime-based products, Earthus Plasters are highly alkaline during mixing and while wet. It's recommended to wear a dust mask and safety glasses, cover exposed skin during mixing, and wear neoprene gloves and protective clothing during application. If skin comes in contact with wet Sand plaster and causes irritation, rinse skin with cold water. White vinegar can also be used to rinse skin to neutralize the lime. If Sand plaster gets into your eyes, flush your eyes with cold water using an eyewash.

[Safety Data Sheets](#)

3.5 Substrate Preparation

Earthus does not make a primer product. For health, we recommend choosing a primer with zero to low VOCs. For a list of Suitable Primers:

[Primer Grit Product Guide](#)

A. Application of primer with Earthus Primer Grit

1. Add full contents of the Primer Grit into 1 gallon of primer of choice.
2. Mix with a drill and paddle for 30 seconds until well integrated.
3. Use a brush or roller to apply one coat evenly to the substrate.
4. Allow the primer to dry fully until the Grit is completely bonded to the surface.

4.0 Sand Finish Application Guide

Tips & Considerations

1. Even coats: Paying attention to ensuring coats are even and preventing any high spots or ridges in the basecoat especially, will minimize aesthetic issues in the finish coat and with color continuity.
2. Thickness of coats: Novices tend to apply too thick of coats which can show up as ridges and trowel lines. Too thick of coats increases the risk of cracking.
3. Color variation: Burnishing, applying pressure with a trowel, if done too hard can bruise a plaster finish, darkening the color. Burnishing in areas with high spots or ridges are easily bruised with burnishing.

A. Mixing Sand Plaster

1. Add 2 gallons of water to a 5 gallon bucket
2. Add the Mineral Pigment Pack to the water and mix vigorously for one minute with a high RPM drill. It is highly recommended to pour the pigmented water through a five gallon paint strainer to minimize the potential for pigment bursts. A pigment burst is a small chunk of unmixed pigment that can burst into the finished plaster when troweled over.
3. Add 1/3 of the bag of Sand Plaster to the strained pigmented water. Mix well then scrape any powdered plaster from the sides of the bucket.
4. Add the next 1/3 of the bag, mix, scrape, and repeat until all the powdered Sand Plaster is incorporated.
5. Once all of the Sand Plaster has been incorporated, mix vigorously with a high RPM drill for 3 minutes, minimum. The long and thorough mixing time will ensure full pigment dispersion and minimize the possibility of any unmixed particles.
6. Adding a small amount of water may be necessary due to variations in pigment quantity in each color and slight variation in plaster content per bag. Be careful to not add too much water. Aim for a plaster consistency of a thick milkshake.

B. Sand Base coat Application

1. Apply an even base coat of Sand approximately 1/32nd inch thick. 1/32 inch is the thickness of a credit card
2. When the first coat of Sand plaster is approximately 60% dry, use a clean trowel to smooth out any trowel marks or ridges.
3. Allow the Sand base coat to dry fully before applying the finish coat.
4. The color will lighten significantly when fully dried.

C. Sand Finish Coat Application

1. Apply a “tight coat” which means a coat just thicker than the largest grains of aggregate in the Sand plaster.
2. When the first tight coat is firm but still wet, “double back” (apply another) tight coat.
3. If textured effects are desired, use the trowel or other tools to incorporate textural patterns into the wet Sand Plaster.
4. When the plaster is semi-dry, smooth the surface with a clean trowel if a smoother finish is desired.
5. The color will lighten significantly when fully dried.

5.0 Completion

5.1 Storage

Once mixed, Sand plaster will keep for 14 days covered at room temperature. To rework Sand plaster after storage, it is essential to remix the plaster using a drill. Unmixed dry Sand Plaster will store for up to one year dry and at low humidity.

5.2 Clean up & Disposal

To clean primer tools and dispose of excess primer, follow directions from the manufacturer. To clean plaster tools and dispose of excess Sand plaster, allow the plaster to fully dry in the container. Once dried, the plaster will easily be removed from the container and can be disposed of in the trash.

6.0 Project Consultation

For questions unique to your project, phone consultation is available with an Earthaus expert.

[Project Consultation](#)